PROCEEDINGS

—OF THE—

Forty-Seventh Anniversary

—OF THE—

JUDSON

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

The Bethel Baptist Church,

SEPTEMBER 7, 8 AND 9, 1899.

Next Place of Meeting With

The Hopewell Baptist Church.

Guntown Hot Times Print.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Forty-Seventh Anniversary

OF THE

Judson Baptist Association

HELD WITH

The Bethel Baptist Church,

SEPTEMBER 7, 8 AND 9, 1899.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

R. S. THOMAS, MODERATOR, : Plantersville, Miss.
J. S. HOWERTON, CLERK, : : Guntown, Miss.
J. M. ARMSTRONG, TREASURER, Richmondlee, Miss.

MINISTERIAL REGISTER.

LICENTIATES—J. C. LAWHORN, L. B. GANDY, J. R. GREGORY.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

ELDER WM. J. THOMAS, - - - - Abney, Miss.
ELDER J. J. TURNER, P., - - - Mantachie, Miss.
ELDER S. S. HOUSTON, - - - Kirkville, Miss.
ELDER W. H. MOORE, P., - - Richmondlee, Miss.
ELDER W. A. REYNOLDS, P., - Mantachie, Miss.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING—Thursday before the second Lord's Day in September, 1900, with Hopewell Church, 14 miles East of Plantersville, Miss.

PRINTED AT
The Hot Times Office,
GUNTOWN, MISS.

MINUTES.

The Judson Baptist Association convened in its Forty-Seventh Session with the Church at Bethel, Sept. 7, 1899.

Elder W. H. Moore preached the introductory sermon. Theme: "The willingness of God to bless His people." After which a recess was taken for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association reassembled by singing.

Moderator Thomas was present and presiding.

Elder W. B. Bookout led in prayer.

The roll of Churches was called and letters from the following were handed in, read and names of messengers enrolled, as follows:

UNION HILL—A. I. Hill, J. D. Coggins and W. H. Minga, with J. L. Scribner alternate.

UNITY—A. J. Herring, M. C. Raper and L. A. Herring, with S. M. Raper alternate.

LIBERTY—D. M. Brown, Asa Ridings and J. H. Worthy, with W. H. Brown alternate.

PLANTERSVILLE—R. S. Thomas, R. G. Biggers and Frank Gullet, with James Harris alternate.

RICHMOND—W. H. Moore, P. J. Mattox and B. Lesley, with J. C. Marshall alternate.

CENTER HILL—L. B. Gandy, R. L. Birmingham and P. H. Rogers, with S. H. Birmingham alternate.

OAK GROVE—J. J. Turner, H. C. Rushing and W. H. Leigh, with J. T. Rushing alternate.

PLEASANT HILL—W. M. Whitaker, W. M. Gardner and A. P. Carr, with — Simpson alternate.

MANTACHIE—W. A. Reynolds, S. H. Turner and Z. W. Hodges, with B. F. Chilcoat alternate.

FRIENDSHIP—J. L. Bailey, J. S. Howerton and T. B. Nelson, with J. R. Finney alternate.

SHILOH—L. A. Lollar, S. S. Houston and O. W. Houston, with T. J. Johnson alternate.

BETHEL—John Sheffield, Sr., J. W. Summers and J. R. Gregory, with C. S. Gregory alternate.

BOUGHFALA—Turner Powell, Henry Gregory and Wm. Cason, with John Stevens alternate.

HOPEWELL—W. E. Morse, B. E. Bourland and Wm. J. Thomas, with E. L. Gray alternate.

With Elder W. B. Bookout and W. H. Rouse as tellers the Association proceeded to elect its officers, which resulted in the choice of R. S. Thomas Moderator, J. S. Howerton Clerk and J. M. Armstrong Treasurer.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

ON ARRANGEMENTS—P. J. Mattox, R. H. Rogers and E. L. Gray.

ON DEVOTION—R. G. Biggers, R. L. Birmingham and Turner Powell, together with the Deacons of Bethel Church.

Elder W. B. Bookout and W. H. Rouse were received as corresponding messengers from the Tom Bigbee Association.

Committee on Arrangements report the same order of business as last session.

Report received and committee discharged.

By motion the regular order of business was suspended for the purpose of selecting a place for the next session of this body.

It was decided that the next session of the Association would convene with the Church at Hopewell, twelve miles east of Plantersville, on Thursday before the second Lord's Day in September, 1900. Elder Sam S. Houston to preach the introductory sermon, with Elder W. A. Reynolds alternate.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

ON FRATERNAL DEAD—J. D. Coggins, D. M. Brown and Z. N. Hodges.

ON MISSIONS—P. J. Mattox, R. L. Birmingham and Frank Gullet.

ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—R. G. Biggers, R. H. Rogers and W. H. Minga.

On Ministerial Support—J. A. Williams, B. Lesley and Turner Powell.

On Orphanage—W. A. Reynolds, J. W. Summers and A. I. Hill.

On the Use of Intoxicating Liquors—J. R. Gregory, L. B. Gandy and W. H. Leigh.

On State of Religion—W. H. Moore, S. H. Turner and T. B Nelson.

On Colleges and Other Institutions of Learning—R. L. Birmingham, A. P. Carr and Wm. Cason.

On Manuscripts—J. L. Bailey, D. M. Brown and John Sheffield, Sr.

On Publications—Sam S. Houston, H. C. Rushing and E. L. Gray.

On Music—B. E. Bourland, P. J. Mattox and L. B. Gandy.

On Finance—S. H. Turner, J. A. Williams and B. Lesley.

On Resolutions—R. H. Rogers, S. H. Turner and W. E. Morse.

Devotional Committee report that Elder Jeff A. Rogers preach tonight at 8 o'clock.

The Association adjourned to meet at 8:30 in the morning.

Benediction by Elder Sam S. Houston.

At night Elder Jeff A. Rogers preached an interesting sermon. Text: Titus 2:14.

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 8.

The Association reassembled pursuant to adjournment.

The Moderator read 10th chapter of Luke. Elder G. W. Potter led in prayer.

Minutes of yesterday read, corrected and approved.

Elders Jeff A. Rogers, R. A. Cooper and G. W. Potter, were received as corresponding messengers from the Aberdeen Association and Brother Joe H. Powell from the Tom Bigbee Association.

Letters from Fellowship and Ballardsville were handed in, read and names of messengers enrolled as follows:

FELLOWSHIP—A. J. Sandlin, H. C. Cruber and Eli Bynum, with C. L. Peach as alternate.

BALLARDSVILLE—George W. Ballard, D. H. Stevens and B. Williams, with W. A. Gregory as alternate.

The Clerk was authorized to drop Oak Hill from the roll of Churches, it having been reported that it was dead.

Elder R. S. Thomas read the following report on

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Perhaps, at no time since the illustrious Carey, of Northampton, Eng., conceived the happy idea of gathering together each Sabbath the waifs and other neglected ones to train their minds towards a preparation for the future state, have the Sunday Schools on this continent been as prosperous as the past year, as evidenced by report of Sunday School Committee to the Southern Baptist Convention, which report shows great advancement all along the lines in the work of the Sunday School Board. We notice Missionary Day—which this year is to be the last Sunday in Sept.—has proven to be quite a success.

We are glad to be enabled to report that within our own bounds the interest is increasing, though not with the rapidity desired. A majority of the churches have good and orderly schools most of the year, while some have been continuous for several years. The Annual Convention was held at Ballardsville in July. It was a pleasant and, we trust, a profitable meeting; 8 schools, representing an average enrollment of about 40, were represented. The next convention will be held at Richmond. We earnestly recommend all Christians to advocate by precept and example this great work, and may we remember that the enemy is at our doors and endeavoring by many alluring devices, such as bar rooms, ball rooms, gambling dens, and other places of iniquity, to captivate the young, who are the only hope for the future of society and perpetuity of the church. Adopted.

Elder R. A. Cooper read the following report on

MISSIONS.

Man is brought under condemnation by sin. "The soul

that sinneth it shall die". There is one way out of this condemnation, viz, through Jesus, who came under the law and obeyed its demands for us and for us died, thus paying the penalty of our transgressions for us. The Gospel (good news) is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; for therein (the Gospel) is the righteousness of God revealed, that is, the Gospel reveals to a condemned sinner how he may have for his own "the righteousness of God." To tell this good news is preaching the Gospel; to tell it to the destitute is called Missions. Hence the classifications, "State Missions, Home Missions, Foreign Missions"; meaning those who preach the gospel in the State and the territory of the Southern Convention and the "region beyond".

For a sinner under the curse of God's holy law to learn that Christ has redeemed him from the curse and gives him "the righteousness of God" in which to stand at the Judgment is the greatest—the best news that can greet mortal ears. Hence if Jesus had not said "Go ye into all the world and preach the good news to every creature", we ought to count it our supreme delight to preach it anyway, but when he not only permits it, but commands it, we ought to ask, who shall keep us from obeying this command? Shall tribulations or distress or famine or nakedness or peril or sword or poverty? And then we ought to answer that none of these things can keep us from proclaiming the glorious message to dying men, who are the children of wrath as well as we. Then, dear brethren, let us be witnesses to this great truth for Jesus' sake; and when we can not go ourselves, let us help to pay the expenses of those, who can go— let us plant our crops, plan our merchandise or shove our planes with a view to helping God's servants to "go", and as we preach, work and pray, let us sing:

"I love to tell the story,
It did so much for me.
And that is just the reason,
I tell it now to thee."

Remarks by Elders Jeff A. Rogers and G. W. Potter. The Association adjourned to meet at 1:30. During recess Elder R. A. Cooper preached a soul stirring sermon; text: I. Peter 2:9.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association reassembled pursuant to adjournment. Brother R. L. Birmingham led in prayer. The report on Missions was under consideration, and after additional remarks by Elder R. A. Cooper and others was adopted.

Letters from Evergreen and Mt. Vernon were handed in, read and names of messengers enrolled, as follows:

EVERGREEN—W. F. Armstrong, W. R. Mullins and S. L. Nabors, with —, Ataway as alternate.

MT. VERNON—J. H. Griff, J. W. Morgan and T. H. Partin, with D. B. George as alternate.

Brother J. D. Coggins read the following report on

FRATERNAL DEAD.

Since our last annual meeting we find the following named brethren and sisters, have been taken from our midst:

FRIENDSHIP—Elizabeth Butler, Annie Jane Dunahoo, M. E. Strickland, Elbert Magers and Ann Neaves.

BETHEL—Barnie Gray and R. B. Kyle.

BALLARDSVILLE—F. M. Gregory.

SHILOH—M. B. Lyle.

MANTACHIE—David Ratliff.

HOPEWELL—Willie Morse and Mary Murrel.

RICHMOND—L. Armstrong and Elmira Threldkeld.

LIBERTY—D. Ridings and N. C. Worthy.

UNION HILL—Virgie Curry.

FELLOWSHIP—Kate Bynum and Eliza McCully.

We have an abiding faith they are in the paradise of God.

After remarks by Elder W. A. Reynolds and others the report was adopted.

Brother R. G. Biggers read the following report on

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

First of all, we believe that those who preach the gospel of God shall first be called of God. If called of God they will

most assuredly be qualified. We believe that a call from God to preach the gospel is the most needful qualification. We also believe it is the duty of all God's people to contribute their means to educate our young men who we believe have been chosen and called to preach the gospel of the Son of God. We further believe that many good men have failed to do the good they might have done with better education.

After remarks by R. L. Birmingham and others the report was adopted.

Devotional Committee report that Elder George W. Potter preach tomorrow at 11 o'clock.

The Association adjourned to meet at 8:30 in the morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 9.

The Association reassembled pursuant to adjournment. Moderator read the 15th Psalm. Brother J. A. Williams led in prayer.

Minutes of yesterday read, corrected and approved.

Brother J. T. Dulany was received as a visitor from the Tom Bigbee Association.

Brother J. A. Williams read the following report on

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT.

We learn by reading the Scriptures that the workman is worthy of his hire and we know from observation that the ministers of this Association have not received the support from the hands of the brethren as they should. We urge it upon the brethren of the Judson Association to be more diligent in the discharge of this very important duty. We believe it is the duty of every church and every individual member of the church to give to the support of their pastor as the Lord blesses them with means. A great many of our ministers have left us and gone to other fields and we think it partly on account of our churches failing to give them sufficient support to enable them to remain with us. Brethren, this is an important question and the advancement of the Master's Kingdom

depends to a greater or a lesser extent on the discharge of this duty by members of our churches. So let us pray God for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the work.

After remarks by P. J. Mattox and others the report was adopted.

Elder W. A. Reynolds read the following report on

THE ORPHANAGE.

We find the Baptist Orphanage, located at Jackson, Miss., since its organization has received fifty children. Thirty-two of whom were in the home June 1st, 1899. Eighteen had gone out into private homes. To feed, cloth, educate and train all these, both mentally and spiritually, together with all, who may hereafter be received, and the door stands ajar to all white orphan children of whatever faith.

The manager depends alone on the promises of the God of the orphans and voluntary contributions of the people. We, therefore, recommend that we inform ourselves, both as to the working and needs of the Orphanage, that each church of this Association take collections regularly for this good work remembering that it is said that God loves a cheerful giver.

After remarks by Elder George W. Potter and others the report was adopted.

Brother R. L. Birmingham read the following report on

COLLEGES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING.

It has been said by one of our most learned men that enlightenment is the first step to Christianity, for it is by hearing and learning of God and His goodness toward us that lead men to believe the Word. How can they learn without being taught and how can they teach except they be prepared? The best place to prepare to teach is in our State schools and colleges. We believe our Mississippi College is the best place for young men to go to fit themselves for the duties of life, that they may be able to take up the different avocations, whether it be teaching or preaching, for teaching is preaching, and in order to rightly teach and divide the Word of Truth he must

be prepared himself. We also believe the Blue Mountain College the best place for girls. Brother B. G. Lowrey is president, and we believe him to be one among the best educators in our land. Not only these two, but we have many good schools, and we should take advantage of every opportunity that God has given us to improve the minds of those He has committed to our care, that, learning themselves, they may be able to teach others, so that the good work may go on until the Master shall come and say, "It is enough; come up higher; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

After remarks by the Moderator the report was adopted.

Elder W. H. Moore read the following report on

THE STATE OF RELIGION.

We find from the reading of the letters that most of the churches have had some additions to them during the past year. Some of them seem to have had more additions during their protracted meetings than others, but, dear brethren, we cannot take this as an infallible sign from the Lord that they are in a better state of religion and pleasing God more than churches which have not received so many into their membership; we don't believe that the increase of the membership is a true sign that God is well pleased with that church; we believe that churches often increase their membership in a way that is very displeasing in the sight of God. The true state of religion in a church is manifested in the orderly walk of its members—the manner in which they keep house for God and do His commandments. "Blessed are they that do His commandments that they may have a right to the tree of life and enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14.

Dear Brethren, we conclude by saying that we believe that we all ought to pray for a revival of the work of obedience in all the churches of our Association and wheresoever the blessed gospel is preached the world over. So let each of us who profess the name of Christ depart from all iniquity that we may be able to lead others to Him Who is able to save and will save all who put their trust in Him.

After remarks the report was adopted.

Brother L. B. Gandy read the following report on

THE USE OF INTOXICATING LIQOURS.

Intoxicating drinks are good for nothing except to bring men to shame and ruin. We believe that those who foster the use or sale of it in any way cannot worship God to Divine acceptance. We pray to God to deliver us from evil and we know that whisky or any other intoxicants are the cause of so many being led to ruin and destruction. How can we—the children of God—advocate the sale of it in any sense? We pray that the time is near at hand when we can adopt a plan or remedy to extricate it from our midst, and may God help us all to pray earnestly to deliver us from this evil.

After remarks by several brethren the report was adopted.

The Association adjourned to meet at 1:30.

During recess Elder G. W. Potter preached an edifying sermon to a large and attentive congregation. Theme: Heavenly Citizenship. Text: Phil. 3:20-21.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association reassembled pursuant to adjournment.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That this body instruct the Finance Committee to make a tabulated statement of all moneys paid out by the churches and received by the Association, showing the disposition of all moneys, in fact, embody all financial transactions of this Association.

Brother J. L. Bailey read the following report on

MANUSCRIPTS.

We find that the Union of the First District at its last session adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, That we, the Union of the First District of the Judson Association, favor a consolidation of the two Unions of the Association, hence we recommend to the Churches of our

Union that they select messengers to the Union of the Second District at its next meeting and ask that they be admitted as members of that body.

We also find that the Union of the Second District will meet with the Church at Richmond on Friday before the first Lord's Day in August, 1900.

SUBJECTS AND PERSONS TO WRITE.

1. Is there Scriptural authority for our present mission system? If so, produce it—W. H. Moore.

2. The Lord's Supper. How often should it be taken and to whom should it be offered?—P. J. Mattox.

3. Exegesis of the parable of the Ten Virgins—B. Lesley.

4. Why do Baptists baptize?—J. M. Armstrong.

5. Does the Holy Spirit go in advance of the preached or written word?—R. S. Thomas.

6. How often should Missions be preached?—L. B. Gandy.

Adopted.

Elder Sam S. Houston read the following report on

PUBLICATIONS.

First of all we earnestly urge that the Bible be carefully studied so we will be able, when called upon, to give reasons for the Hope we have of a home beyond the world. We also recommend Orphan Gem, Foreign Mission Journal, The Baptist, The Sunday School Literature of the Southern Baptist Convention and all other good sound literature. Adopted.

Brother B. E. Bourland read the following report on

MUSIC.

Next to the preaching of the gospel and prayer we deem Music for the soul of the whole world is with Music, and as one of old: "Oh! May our heart in tune be found, Like David's harp of solemn sound." Music is a part of God's worship and His glorious promises to the children of men. Brethren, we can not praise God enough in song while on earth. We would refer you to all sacred song books, such as Class Choir, Harvest

Bells, Revival Choir and others. Let us pray God that the Spirit of Music may increase in these ends of the earth.

After remarks the report was adopted.

By motion the Association elected Brother R. S. Thomas as General Superintendent of the Sunday Schools in lieu of our former Sunday School Board.

Correspondents were appointed as follows:

To Tom Bigbee—J. W. Morgan, S. H. Turner, J. W. Summers and J. L. Bailey.

To Aberdeen—R. S. Thomas and J. R. Gregory.

West Judson—J. S. Howerton, W. A. Reynolds and R. H. Rogers.

Tishomingo—J. S. Howerton, J. W. Morgan and R. S. Thomas.

Baptist State Convention—R. S. Thomas and L. B. Gandy.

Southern Baptist Convention—R. S. Thomas.

By motion the same Executive Board was retained, viz., J. M. Armstrong, J. A. Williams, S. H. Turner, J. L. Bailey and James Gregory.

The Treasurer was ordered to pay all moneys collected at Fifth Sunday Meetings to Elder William J. Thomas.

The Committee on Resolutions read the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to this church and the entire community for their generous hospitality extended to us during our stay among them.

Brother Steve H. Turner made the following as the report of the Finance Committee:

Report of the Finance Committee.

CHURCHES.	State Mis.	Home Mis.	Foreign M.	Orphanage.	Minutes.
	$	$	$	$	$ 75
Boughfala					
Bethel	....	....	....	....	1 45
Fellowship	....	....	....	....	50
Friendship	....	....	....	....	1 00
Mantachie	....	....	....	....	1 00
Mt. Vernon	....	....	....	....	50
Oak Grove	....	....	....	....	1 00
Pleasant Hill	....	3 70	3 70	....	1 30
Shiloh	....	....	1 00	....	65
Unity	....	....	....	....	25
Ballardsville	....	....	....	....	1 00
Center Hill	5 25	5 25	5 25	11 00	1 50
Evergreen	2 00	....	2 00	....	1 00
Hopewell	....	....	3 00	....	1 20
Liberty	....	....	....	....	55
Plantersville	4 25	4 25	4 25	....	1 35
Richmond	....	....	....	....	70
Union Hill	....	50	....	50	1 00
Total	11 50	13 70	19 20	11 50	16 70

Grand total ..... $ 72 60

We also find that Bro. R. S. Thomas has paid to Miss. College $30, to Orphanage $10, to Miss. College Building, $25, total 65 00

We also find that the Executive Committee has collected and paid to Treasurer 18 42

Grand total $156 02

This is the amount paid out besides pastors' salaries, church expenses, etc.

S. H. TURNER,
B. LESLEY,
J. A. WILLIAMS, } Com.

Report of the Executive Committee.

Am't, received at 5th Sunday meetings.

1899	AT EVERGREEN.	
Oct	Public Collection	$4 00
"	Richmond church	80
"	Union Hill church	40
"	Evergreen church	2 00
	UNION HILL.	
Jan.	Hopewell church	1 25
"	Union Hill church	15
	MANTACHIE.	
April	Evergreen church	1 10
"	Mantachie church	60
"	Public Collection	4 00
	OAK GROVE.	
July	Hopewell church	80
"	Mantachie church	83
"	Public Collection	2 19
	From C. Blythe	50
	Total	$18 42

Treasurer's Report.

1899.	Dr.	Cr.
To am't on hand from 1898.	$ 63 64	
" " from Exec. Board	18 42	
" " " Finance Com.	72 60	
Total	$154 66	
By Minute money 1898		$17 46
" Wm. J. Thomas		25 00
" Foreign Mission		16 15
" State "		10 10
" Home "		11 65
Total		$80 36
To balance on hand	$ 74 30	

By motion the Association adjourned to meet with the Hopewell Church on Thursday before the second Lord's Day in September, 1900.

A song was sung and the parting hand extended. Thus closed the Forty-seventh Anniversary of the Judson Baptist Association.

R. S. THOMAS, Moderator.
J. S. HOWERTON, Clerk.

Statistical Table.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Post Office.	Baptized	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Died	Total Membership	Day of Meeting
Boughfala	S. G. Cooper	Mooresville				2			60	1
Bethel	W. A. Reynolds	Dorsey	6	3		4		2	120	2
Fellowship	W. H. Moore	Saltillo				1		2	30	4
Friendship	D. R. McClung	Guntown		5		1	1	5	67	4
Mantachie	W. A. Reynolds	Mantachie	14	4			4	1	97	3
Mt. Vernon	J. J. Turner	Ita	1	1					53	1
Oak Grove	W. A. Reynolds	Ratliff	1		1	1			112	2
Pleasant Hill	W. N. Swain	Tulip	5		1				100	1
Shiloh	.....	Kirkville		1		1		1	22	3
Unity	J. J. Turner	Longville	1	14	1	5	2		40	3
Ballardsville	W. N. Swain	Ballardsville	18				1		42	4
Center Hill	G. W. Potter	Plantersville	2						60	4
Evergreen	W. H. Moore	Evergreen							27	2
Hopewell	W. A. Reynolds	Abney	9	3		4	2	2	152	4
Liberty	W. H. Moore	Bigby Fork		3	1	4	1	2	70	1
Plantersville	G. W. Potter	Plantersville		1					42	2
Richmond	W. H. Moore	Richmondlee		1		3		2	56	3
Union Hill	G. W. Potter	Allensburg	5	1				1	54	3
		Total	62	37	4	26	11	18	1204	

I have received since the Association for minutes From Plantersville Church 30 cents.—Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

We, the United Baptist Churches in the State of Mississippi, having been regularly dismissed by letter from the following Associations, viz, Aberdeen, Chickasaw and Bear Creek, have united for the purpose of maintaining and keeping the Order and Rules of an Association, according to the following plan:

ART. 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our Union, who, on producing letters from their respective churches, certifying their election, shall be entitled to seats.

ART. 2. The letters from the churches are to express number of white male and female members; number of colored members; time of meeting; number of Baptists received by letter; restored; dismissed by letter; excluded; dead, since last Association; the name of pastor and post office.

ART. 3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be known as the Judson Association, who shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, or to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches of the Union, but shall be an advisory council for the common benefit of all the churches and the furtherance of the cause of our Redeemer. The Association shall have power to exclude any church from the Union, which may depart from the orthodox principles of the gospel, either in faith or practice. (The fundamental principles we adopt and believe may be seen in our abstract.)

ART. 4. Every church in the Union shall be entitled to three delegates, and one additional delegate for every 100 members above 100. Should any church neglect to represent herself, she shall state the reason in her letter to the next Association.

ART. 5. New churches may be admitted to this body who petition by letter and delegates. If found to be sound in the faith and in good order, the reception thereof to be manifested by the moderator giving the right hand.

ART. 6. This Association shall be governed by Rules of Decorum, of their own adoption.

ART. 7. The Association shall annually elect a moderator from among themselves, whose duty it shall be to see that the Rules of Decorum are observed, and take the voice of the Association on all questions properly brought before it. Also a clerk shall be elected whose duty it shall be to take correct minutes of the acts of the Association.

ART. 8. No query shall be received for the consideration of the Association until the church presenting it shall have made an effort to answer it to her satisfaction and failed to do so.

ART. 9. The Association shall have a fund for the support of the same, which shall be raised by voluntary contributions of the churches, sent by their delegates, which money shall be deposited in the hands of the treasurer, chosen by the

Association, who shall be accountable to the Association for all moneys received by him as treasurer.

ART. 10. The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority of the members present, except in the reception and dismission of churches, which shall be unanimous.

ART. 11. The Association will correspond with other Associations as may be agreed on while in session.

ART. 12. It shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a minister to preach an introductory sermon, with an alternate, at each succeeding session; also the time and place for next Association.

ART. 13. No charge will be received against any church in our Union, only when established by a sister church.

ART. 14. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any ttme by two-thirds of the churches composing the body.

ART. 15. The minutes to be read, adopted and signed by the moderator and clerk before the Association finally adjourns.

ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

2. We believe that the Scriptures teach that there is but one living and true God; that there are three persons in this one God; the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit; and that this triune God is the only object of all religious worship and adoration; and that all worship paid to anything else, in the name of God, is idolatry and abomination in His sight.

3. We believe that God created man holy and happy; that he sinned and fell from that condition; that by the fall he lost his original righteousness and became both sinful and depraved, and as a natural consequence all his posterity, by ordinary generations, are involved in all the consequences of his fall.

4. We believe that man by nature has no power to recover himself from his lost and ruined condition, and that unless God Himself has provided a way of salvation all must have been ruined and miserable forever, because they have all sinned.

5. We believe that God has provided a way of salvation, and has revealed it to us in the Gospel of His Son, that this way of salvation was adopted in the

eternal council before the foundation of the world, according to which God saves sinners through the sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

6. We believe that fallen man has nothing and can do nothing of himself to recommend him to the favorable notice of the Divine Being, and that all his hope of pardon, sanctification, justification and redemption, is derived alone through the merits of Christ.

7. We believe that Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God, is the only mediator between God and man; that He first became our surety, and in the fullness of time and sacrifice, and that the only efficacious plea that He makes before the throne in our behalf is built upon His own and all-atoning sacrifice, and perfect righteousness before God.

8. We believe that the Holy Spirit, the third person in the adorable Trinity, is the great agent in convincing man of his lost and condemned condition, and in making the gospel plan of mercy plain and acceptable to him.

9. We believe that all who are sanctified by the Spirit are fully justified by the righteousness of Christ, which is in all, and upon all them that believe.

10. We believe that all who are called to be saints through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth, shall be eternally saved.

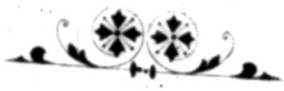
11. We believe that Christian churches are to be formed of believers in Christ, who give evidence of change of heart and who have been regularly baptized.

12. We believe that the government of the church is not left in the hands of any one man, or number of men distinct from the body, but that it is left to the whole church.

13. We believe that the first day of the week, called the Lord's Day, is sanctified, or set apart for the public worship of God, and that it is the duty of Christians to abstain on that day from all unnecessary visiting, trifling conversation or labor, except so much as may be devoted to works of necessity or mercy.

14. We believe that God has appointed the preaching of the gospel for the edification of the church and the advancement of His kingdom; that it is the duty of church members to contribute to the support of the ministry of God as His providence may give them ability.

15. We believe that Jesus Christ has appointed two positive institutions, or ordinances, to be observed in His church, viz: Baptism and the Lord's Supper; that baptism is immersion in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that believers alone are capable of rightly receiving this ordinance; that baptism precedes the Lord's Supper, and none but regularly ordained ministers have any right to administer them.



RULES OF DECORUM.

ART. 1. The Association shall be opened by prayer.

ART. 2. The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the members present by private ballot.

ART. 3. The moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal, provided the appeal is made on the same day but at no subsequent time.

ART. 4. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, but not to vote unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he rises to speak he shall call some brother to take the chair.

ART. 5. Every question brought before the Association shall be open for discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second; when a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion the moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays and if a call for a division be made it shall be decided by the members rising.

ART. 6. Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the moderator; only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject or makes personal reflections.

ART. 7. No one shall speak more than once upon any subject until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.

ART. 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be decided before another is offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with consent of mover and Association.

ART. 9. The names of members shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and absentees marked; any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the moderator.

ART. 10. The appellation of brother shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

ART. 11. Any member violating the rules shall be subject to be reproved by the moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

ART. 12. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules whenever a majority may deem necessary.

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